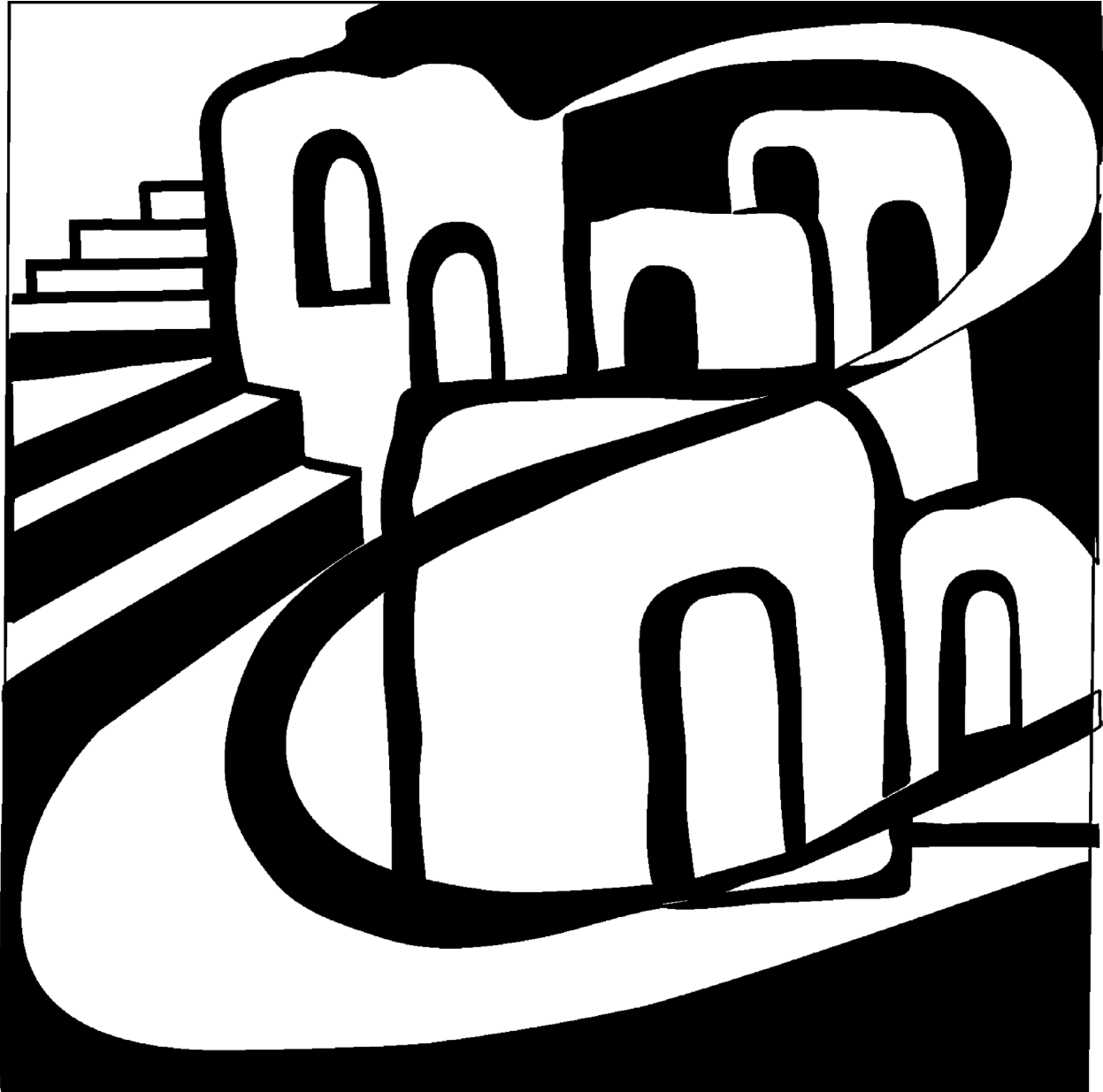


MESSIAH LUTHERAN
Seaside

SAVANNAH, GEORGIA

Sunday, May 10, 2026
Sixth Sunday of Easter



MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH
1 West Ridge Road, Savannah, GA 31411
(912) 598-1188
www.messiahsi.org

WELCOME TO THIS
WORSHIP CELEBRA-
TION of the living
Christ's presence in
our midst. Christ
comes to us with new
life and strength for
Christian living in
daily life through the
hearing of the Word,
preaching, prayer,
song, and community.

*As the Confession and
Forgiveness begins, all
may make the sign of
the cross, the sign that
is marked at baptism.*

*Congregational re-
sponses are in bold*

** Asterisks through-
out the order of
worship indicate
the people stand-
ing, in body and/or
in spirit.*

GATHERING

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Barbara Van Doren, reader

PRELUDE "Come Down, O Love Divine"

Shirley Newhart, organ

arr. Hobby

*CONFESSON AND FORGIVENESS

Leader: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
the fountain of living water,
the rock who gave us birth,
our light and our salvation.

People: Amen.

Leader: Let us come into the light,
the revealing and healing light of God.

Leader: God of grace and glory,

**People: you have brought us through the night of sin
into the light of Jesus' resurrection.
Yet our lives are still shadowed by sin.
Make us alive in Christ, O God.
Make us new as you make all things new.
Rescue us from evil and the gloom of sin,
renew us in grace,
and restore us to living in your holiness,
through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.
Amen.**

Leader: Rejoice with all creation around God's throne!
 The light of the risen Christ
 puts to flight all evil deeds, washes away sin,
 restores innocence to the fallen,
 casts out hate, brings peace,
 and humbles earthly pride.
 Jesus Christ loves you
 and † frees you from your sins by his blood.
 To him be glory and dominion forever and ever!

People: Amen.

***GATHERING SONG** "Come Thou Almighty King"

Hymn 408



1 Come, thou al - might - y King, help us thy name to sing;
 2 Come, thou in - car - nate Word, mer - ci - ful, might - y Lord;
 3 Come, ho - ly Com - fort - er, thy sa - cred wit - ness bear
 4 To thee, great One in Three, e - ter - nal prais - es be



help us to praise; Fa - ther all - glo - ri - ous, o'er all vic -
 our prayer at - tend. Come and thy peo - ple bless, and give thy
 in this glad hour! Thou who al - might - y art, rule now in
 hence ev - er - more! Thy sov - 'reign maj - es - ty may we in



to - ri - ous, come and reign o - ver us, An - cient of Days.
 word suc - cess, and let thy righ - teous - ness on us de - scend.
 ev - 'ry heart, nev - er from us de - part, Spir - it of pow'r.
 glo - ry see, and to e - ter - ni - ty love and a - dore.

Text: source unknown, c. 1757, alt.
 Music: ITALIAN HYMN, Felice de Giardini, 1716-1796

***GREETING**

Leader: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the
 communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

People: And also with you.

*Easter is the demon-
 stration of God that
 life is essentially spir-
 itual and timeless.*

—Charles M. Crowe

*CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Refrain

Assisting minister



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.

All



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless-ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Leader: Almighty and ever-living God, you hold together all things in heaven and on earth. In your great mercy receive the prayers of all your children, and give to all the world the Spirit of your truth and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

SPECIAL MUSIC "In a Mother's Heart"

Keesecker

Jane Holst & Diane McCabe, duet

Yvonne Johnson, violin

*Motherhood, a love eternal,
lives in God's great heart of love;
Ever holds us and enfolds us,
underneath, around, above.
Patient, tender, kind, forgiving,
even if we've gone astray,
Faithful like a burning candle,
keeping vigil night and day.*

*God bless mothers in all places,
places dark or full of light,
Be with those who need your guidance,
help them find a way that's right.
Give us hands to serve the stranger,
bend our hearts to those in need,
Like a mother for her children,
Love demands a loving deed.*

*God is love, and love forever
in a mother's heart is found,
Always turning, understanding,
deep, yet simple and profound.
God bless those who in their caring
show the world a way to be,
Full of peace and truth and justice,
bound with hope and harmony.
God is love. God is love.*

WORD

Barbara Van Doren, reader

FIRST READING Acts 17:22-31

New Testament 120

In Athens, Paul faces the challenge of proclaiming the gospel to Greeks who know nothing of either Jewish or Christian tradition. He proclaims that the “unknown god” whom they worship is the true Lord of heaven and earth who will judge the world with justice through Jesus, whom God has raised from the dead.

²² Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, “Athenians, I see how extremely spiritual you are in every way. ²³ For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, ‘To an unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴ The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, ²⁵ nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. ²⁶ From one ancestor he made all peoples to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, ²⁷ so that they would search for God and perhaps fumble about for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. ²⁸ For ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said,

‘For we, too, are his offspring.’

²⁹ “Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. ³⁰ While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹ because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The reading of Scripture is when God makes known his will: God desires mercy and salvation.

Ultimately, this word points us to the Word, the incarnate Son of God.

Through Christ — God's only Son — are we able to know the Father's favor and grace.

PSALMODY: Psalm 66:8-20

Bless our God, you peoples; let the sound of praise be heard. (Ps. 66:8)

Leader: ⁸ Bless our God, you peoples;
let the sound of praise be heard.

**People: ⁹ Our God has kept us among the living
and has not allowed our feet to slip.**

Leader: ¹⁰ For you, O God, have tested us;
you have tried us just as silver is tried.

**People: ¹¹ You brought us into the net;
you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.**

Leader: ¹² You let people ride over our heads; we went through fire and
water, but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.

**People: ¹³ I will enter your house with burnt offerings
and will pay you my vows—**

Leader: ¹⁴ those that I promised with my lips
and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.

**People: ¹⁵ I will offer you burnt offerings of fatlings with the smoke
of rams; I will give you oxen and goats.**

Leader: ¹⁶ Come and listen, all you who believe,
and I will tell you what God has done for me.

**People: ¹⁷ I called out to God with my mouth,
and praised the Lord with my tongue.**

Leader: ¹⁸ If I had cherished evil in my heart,
the Lord would not have heard me;

**People: ¹⁹ but in truth God has heard me
and has attended to the sound of my prayer.**

Leader: ²⁰ Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer,
nor withheld unfailing love from me.

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 2:2-10

New Testament 206

Christ is the cornerstone of God's saving work and the foundation of our lives. We are God's chosen, holy people who continuously celebrate and declare the mercy of God we experience through Jesus Christ.

² Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation—³ if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

⁴ Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and ⁵ like living stones let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶ For it stands in scripture:

“See, I am laying in Zion a stone,
a cornerstone chosen and precious,
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

⁷ This honor, then, is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe,

“The stone that the builders rejected
has become the very head of the corner,”

⁸ and

“A stone that makes them stumble
and a rock that makes them fall.”

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

⁹ But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the excellence of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

¹⁰ Once you were not a people,
but now you are God's people;
once you had not received mercy,
but now you have received mercy.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



*Altar Flowers this week
are given by Pam &
Steve Allen "in loving
memory of Pam's
mother Genevieve Ol-
son Rhoads, born May
10, 1920, in Edgeley,
North Dakota."*

***GOSPEL: John 14:1-7**

New Testament 95

On the night that he is to be arrested, Jesus shares final words with his disciples. As the one through whom God is known, he promises to go before them and act on their behalf.

The Holy Gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹ "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. ² In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. ⁴ And you know the way to the place where I am going." ⁵ Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" ⁶ Jesus said to him, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷ If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON "A Place for You, A Place for God"

Reverend Jason Talsness

*HYMN OF THE DAY "Loving Spirit"

Hymn 397

Verses 1-4



- 1 Lov - ing Spir-it, lov-ing Spir - it, you have cho - sen me to be—
- 2 Like a moth-er you en - fold me, hold my life with-in your own,
- 3 Like a fa - ther you pro - tect me, teach me the dis - cern - ing eye,
- 4 Friend and lov - er, in your close-ness I am known and held and blessed:
- 5 Lov - ing Spir-it, lov-ing Spir - it, you have cho - sen me to be—



you have drawn me to your won - der, you have set your sign on me.
feed me with your ver - y bod - y, form me of your flesh and bone.
hoist me up up - on your shoul-der, let me see the world from high.
in your prom - ise is my com - fort, in your pres-ence I may rest.
you have drawn me to your won - der, you have set your sign on me.

Text: Shirley Erena Murray, b. 1931

Music: RESTORATION, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

Text © 1987 The Hymn Society, admin. Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188.

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*NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;**

he ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

***PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

(In between the petitions of the prayers, the following response is offered.)

Leader: Merciful God,

People: Receive our prayer.

(Final petition and response.)

Leader: God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers
to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world,
through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

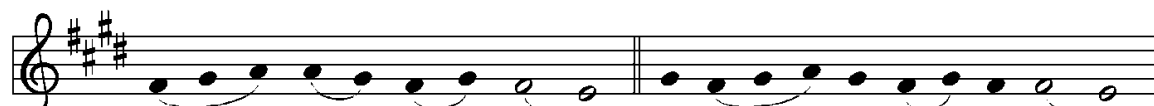
People: Amen.

MEAL


*DIALOGUE




The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.



Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



It is right to give our thanks and praise.

*PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, ...

We praise your name and join their unending hymn:

*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes



in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

*LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.

*INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the table of grace. Receive the gift of new life.

COMMUNION SONG "Lamb of God"



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the



sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Leader: Holy One,

People: **through this meal you have made your home among us
and are making all things new.**

Send us as bearers of your peace and healing.

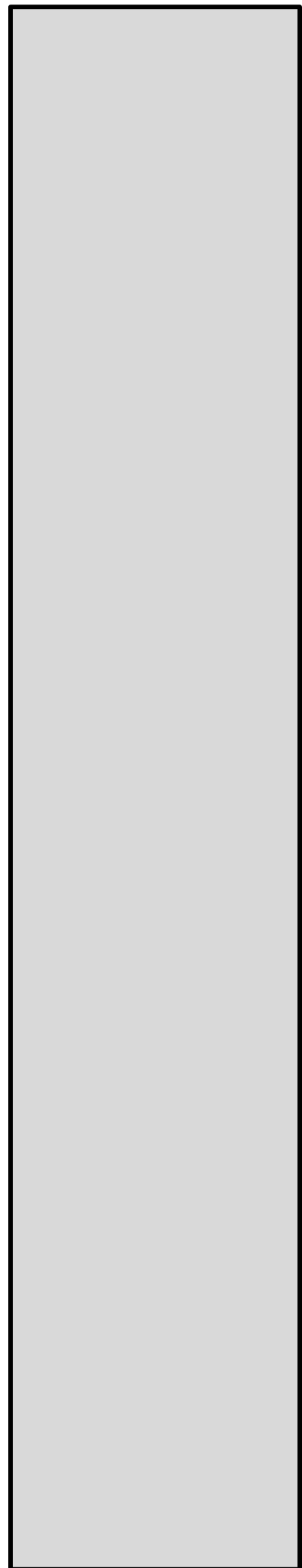
Amen.

SENDING

***PASTORAL BENEDICTION**

Leader: God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end,
Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead,
and the Spirit, our advocate and peace,
✠ bless you now and forever.

People: **Amen.**



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***SENDING SONG** "O Zion, Haste"

Hymn 668



1 O Zi - on, haste, your mis - sion high ful - fill - ing,
2 Pub - lish to ev - 'ry peo - ple, tongue, and na - tion
3 He comes a - gain! O Zi - on, ere you meet him,



to tell to all the world that God is light;
that God, in whom they live and move, is love;
make known to ev - 'ry heart his sav - ing grace;

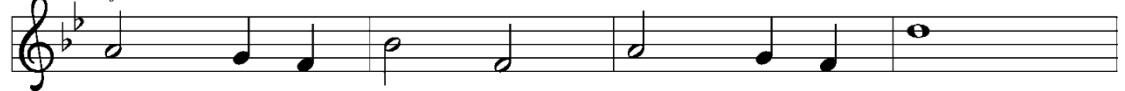


that he who made all na - tions is not will - ing
tell how he stooped to save his lost cre - a - tion
let none whom he has ran - somed fail to greet him,



one soul should per - ish, lost in shades of night.
and died on earth that we might live a - bove.
through your ne - glect, un - fit to see his face.

Refrain



Pub - lish glad tid - ings, tid - ings of peace,



tid - ings of Je - sus, re - demp - tion, and re - lease.

Text: Mary A. Thomson, 1834–1923
Music: ANGELIC SONGS, James Walch, 1837–1901

***DISMISSAL**

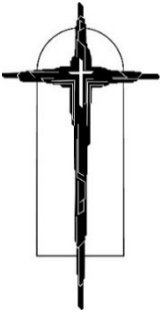
Leader: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

***POSTLUDE** "Italian Hymn"

Shirley Newhart, organ

arr. Young



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday, May 10	9:00 am Worship 10:00 am Summer Choir Rehearsal 10:00 am Coffee Fellowship 10:20 am Adult Discipleship Class 10:20 am Confirmation Class
Monday, May 11	10:00 am Women's Bible Study 4:00 pm Strategic Planning Briefing
Tuesday, May 12	3:00 pm Stephen Ministers
Wednesday, May 13	8:30 am Men's Breakfast & Bible Study
Thursday, May 14	4:00 pm Messiah Messenger Orientation/Training
Friday, May 15	
Saturday, May 16	<i>Recitals</i>

Italics indicate outside group

MESSIAH OFFICE HOURS

Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday-9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Closed for lunch from 12:00 to 1:00 pm

Wednesday-8:30 am to 11:30 am

Friday-Closed

ONLINE GIVING

Please consider making a one-time or recurring gift to Messiah using the secure online portal at the website (messiahsi.org) and clicking on the Give tab. Another option to reach the portal is to scan this QR code using your smartphone's QR reader. This link may be used for paying for altar flowers and other church-related activities. Questions? Contact the Church Office.



If you would like to give the old-fashioned way, the offering plate is on the table as you exit the Sanctuary.



THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

Ministers	The People of Messiah
Pastor	Jason Talsness
Pastor, Congregational Care	Karen Scheib
Director, Faith Formation	Ken Ritz
Pastor Emeritus	James Peper
Presiding Bishop ELCA	Yehiel Curry
Bishop, SE Synod ELCA	Kevin Strickland
Director of Music & Organist	Shirley Newhart
Choral Director	Rodney Powers
Altar Guild	Janet Reardon
Reader	Barbara Van Doren
Evangelism Greeters	Clyde Olson and Steve Walker
Ushers	Terry Blaney and Jim Dawson
Acolytes	Confirmation Class
Communion Assistants	Marcia Stinson and Randi VenHuizen
Audio Visual	Steve Allen and Ken McLauchlan
Coffee Hour	Christine Lind (hosts) Cheryl Liebgott (cake)

MILESTONES THIS WEEK

Birthdays: Janet Reardon 05/11, Ethel Baldwin 05/13

Anniversaries: None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

IT'S BIRTHDAY SUNDAY

On the second Sunday of each month, Messiah celebrates those who have birthdays that month. Join us today at Coffee Fellowship to honor those of you with June birthdays.

OUTREACH MINISTRY

Mother's Day Collection

Deadline: Sunday, May 10

A Mother's Day collection to benefit Shelter from the Rain will take place from April 26th through May 10th. Shelter From the Rain, Inc. (SFTR) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit in Savannah that assists single mothers. Established in 2010, SFTR is designed to show how God's love shelters us from the different rain showers that come into our lives.

- Household Items needed: Clorox Wipes, Laundry Detergent, Dish Detergent,
- Baby Supplies needed: Baby Wipes, Baby Oil, Baby Shampoo, Diapers (Newborn to Size 5), Pull-Ups (Girls and Boys)

More information is available at the Outreach Table in the Narthex. The Outreach Ministry thanks you for your support!

MESSIAH MESSENGERS

Ministry Opportunity

Messiah is looking for volunteers willing to help provide ongoing pastoral care support to home-bound members during Pastor Talsness' sabbatical. Each volunteer will be asked to make one to two home visits per month over the

three-month Sabbatical, June through August. We need at least six visitors, who will be designated Messiah Messengers.

Pastor Scheib will provide training and oversee and support the volunteers. Two orientation and training meetings will be offered. We ask you to attend one. Meeting dates are May 14, 4:00-5:00 p.m. and June 4, 11:00 am-12:00 pm. If you are willing to assist with this ministry, please contact Pastor Scheib. (912-598-1188 ext. 105; 912-556-8394; kdsspin54@gmail.com; text 404-401-0219).

MOBILE TAX OFFICE

At Messiah on Tuesdays

Chatham County Tax Commissioner Sonja Jackson has selected Messiah Lutheran Church as the Skidaway Island location for the new Mobile Tax Office. The Church parking lot will be home for the mobile van from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm each Tuesday. Anything that you need to do at the Tax Commission Office, you can do at the Mobile Office--e.g., property tax issues, tag renewals, title services. You can make an appointment on the Tax Commissioner's website. This is a convenient service for everyone. Spread the word; tell your friends and neighbors.

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Shirley Newhart is organizing an informal Summer Choir to sing on Sunday, May 17. If you are interested in joining the group, she will be holding a rehearsal right after worship today.

SERMON PREVIEW

A Place for You, A Place for God

In this week's Gospel from John 14, Jesus speaks to his disciples amid fear and uncertainty, promising that he goes to prepare a place for them in his Father's house—a place with “many rooms,” or dwelling places. He tells them not to let their hearts be troubled, but to trust in him and in God. When Thomas protests that they do not know the way, Jesus responds with those familiar and powerful words: “I am the way, the truth, and the life.”

This Sunday, we will reflect on what these “many rooms” might mean—not only as a future promise but as a present reality. We will consider the rooms of our own lives and how they become places where God meets us now, even as they point us toward the place where we will be fully at home with God.

Questions for Reflection:

When you hear Jesus say, “Do not let your hearts be troubled,” what troubles come most immediately to mind in your own life? How does your understanding of “many dwelling places” change when you think of it as relationship with Jesus rather than location? Which rooms of your daily life (kitchen, living room, bedroom, etc.) feels most disconnected from a sense of God's presence—and why?

Message to Messiah Congregation About Pastor Talsness' Upcoming Sabbatical

Pastor Jason Talsness will be on Sabbatical from June 1-August 31, 2026. Pastor Karen Scheib will be in charge during this period. She will be responsible for coordinating church worship services, as well as supervising day-to-day church operations and church staff. Pastor Karen will be assisted by Pastor Ken Ritz as well as by the Staff Support and Mutual Ministry committee and the Messiah Council.

SABBATICAL FAQs

What is a sabbatical?

The purpose of a sabbatical is to support long-term sustainability in ministry. A sabbatical is a planned, intentional period of rest, renewal and study for a pastor. It is not a vacation, but a time to step away from regular pastoral duties so the pastor can return reinvigorated with a fresh perspective for ministry. (continued)

Why is the pastor taking a sabbatical?

Sabbaticals of three months are recommended every 5-7 years for lead clergy. Pastor Jason has never had a sabbatical since being ordained 29 years ago. The process was discussed by the Mutual Ministry committee in 2020, planning ensued and culminated with a policy in 2024, which was approved by Messiah Council in 2025.

How long will the sabbatical last?

June 1-August 31, 2026. Pastor Jason's farewell Sunday is May 31 and he will return to the office on September 1.

Who will be taking over pastoral duties while Pastor Talsness is away?

Pastor Karen Scheib. Her office hours at Messiah will be Monday-Thursday from 10:30-12:30. The church office hours for Office Administrator Sandy Cooper will remain the same as posted in the Messiah Minute and church bulletin.

Will worship services continue as usual?

Yes. The congregation will continue to gather for the Word and Sacrament on Sundays at 9:00am.

Who will lead worship and pastoral care during the sabbatical?

Pastor Karen Scheib is responsible for coordinating worship services and pastoral care. She and/or Pastor Ken Ritz will lead the majority of worship services, supported by supply pastors from the Lutheran Church and other denominations.

Who should I contact in an emergency?

For pastoral emergencies such as hospitalization, death or urgent spiritual care needs, contact Pastor Karen Scheib [Direct: (912) 556-8394, Office: (912) 598-1188, ext.105, Email: kdsspin54@gmail.com, Text Only: (404) 401-0219]

Will church programs continue?

Most regular ministries (education, fellowship, outreach) and church administration will continue as normal.

Will Pastor Talsness be available during the sabbatical?

He will not be available for regular pastoral duties, meetings, or communications during the sabbatical. Exceptions will be made for emergencies as mentioned above, but Messiah members wanting to communicate with Pastor Jason about church business should request it through the church office.

What if I bump into Pastor Talsness on the island, at the club or downtown?

Feel free to engage him as much or as little as you like, but **please refrain** from discussing church business. (continued)

I am friends with Pastor Talsness on Facebook, can I engage him there?

Pastor Jason may give updates on his sabbatical, or he may take time away from Facebook. Feel free to follow his lead, but it is likely he will not be engaging with other people's posts during the summer months.

How can the congregation support the sabbatical?

Support can be shown by:

- Participating actively in worship and ministries
- Supporting the Messiah interim leadership and staff members
- Praying for the pastor and congregation during the summer
- Respecting the pastor's time away

What will the pastor be doing during the sabbatical?

Activities may include:

- Reading and study
- Travel or retreat time
- Class attendance
- Surveys of other worship services
- Rest and renewal
- Time with family and personal interests

Will there be a report or sharing after the sabbatical?

Often pastors share reflections, learnings, or insights through sermons, presentations or written reports. Details will be shared closer to the return date.

Will there be updates during the sabbatical?

Yes. Information will be provided through the Messiah Minute and weekly church bulletin. If you have any specific questions not covered, feel free to contact Pastor Karen Scheib or someone on the Mutual Ministry committee (Chair - Greg Stinson, Amanda Ridberg, or David Ridberg).

Final Note

This sabbatical is a gift to both the pastor and the congregation. It is a time to trust God's continued presence and care within the life of the church. It improves and extends the spiritual and mental well-being of the pastor while building resiliency within the congregation.

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¹ Greg Stinson is serving the second year of a three-year term that ends in 2027.

² George Lawrence is serving the first year of a three-year term that ends in 2028.

